



United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire

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**MASSACHUSETTS WOMAN SENTENCED ON IDENTITY THEFT CRIMES**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced today that **KELLY MARINO**, formerly of 11 Russell Terrace, Newburyport, Massachusetts, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Concord to 18 months in federal prison following her conviction on one count of aggravated identity theft. Marino pleaded guilty to the charge on February 3, 2006.

Marino, 24, pleaded guilty to a charge that, between May and October of 2004, she committed the aggravated identity theft in an ongoing scheme that was aided and abetted by a co-defendant, Marie Colokathis. Marino and Colokathis used the identity information of a Massachusetts woman to fraudulently obtain credit cards which in turn were used on shopping sprees, some of which took place in New Hampshire. The victim's identity information was obtained when Marino found the victim's driver's license in a parking lot.

The prosecution of Marino resulted from the formation of the Identity Theft and Fraud Working Group organized in the U.S. Attorney's office, which brings together both federal and state law enforcement agencies to combat identity theft and fraud. An intensive and coordinated investigation by agents of the Newburyport, Massachusetts Police Department and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service resulted in Marino's apprehension.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono commended all agencies involved stating, "The vigilance of the Newburyport Massachusetts Police Department, which first began the investigation of the fraud, followed by the joint efforts and outstanding cooperation among numerous federal and state agencies stands as a fine example of law enforcement work and professionalism at its best. This case should serve as a warning to anyone contemplating identity fraud that they will be detected, apprehended, and prosecuted."

Assistant U. S. Attorney Alfred Rubega prosecuted this case.